

# Senate File 2251 - Introduced

SENATE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN  
RESOURCES

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 3098)

Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

## A BILL FOR

1 An Act requiring certification of the performance of an eye  
2 examination, and submission of the results of such  
3 examination, when a child is enrolled in kindergarten.  
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:  
5 TLSB 5776SV 82  
6 ak/rj/24

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1 1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 135.39D EYE EXAMINATIONS.  
1 2 1. Prior to the age of six, the parent or guardian of the  
1 3 child shall present to school program personnel or school  
1 4 health personnel certification that the child has undergone an  
1 5 eye examination by a licensed ophthalmologist or optometrist,  
1 6 and the results of the examination.  
1 7 2. Students enrolling in kindergarten shall be required to  
1 8 undergo an eye examination, performed by a licensed  
1 9 ophthalmologist or optometrist. The eye examination shall at  
1 10 a minimum include measurement of visual acuity; ocular  
1 11 alignment and motility; stereopsis; slit lamp; examination of  
1 12 the anterior segment and pupils; refraction and fundus  
1 13 components; and any other tests or observations that in the  
1 14 professional judgment of the ophthalmologist or optometrist  
1 15 are necessary. An ophthalmologist or optometrist conducting  
1 16 an eye examination of a child shall provide written  
1 17 certification and results of the examination to a parent or  
1 18 guardian of the child. The report shall include but not be  
1 19 limited to the following:  
1 20 a. The date of the report.  
1 21 b. The name, address, and date of birth of the child.  
1 22 c. The name of the child's program or school.  
1 23 d. A summary of significant findings, including diagnoses,  
1 24 treatment plan, and whether a return visit is recommended, and  
1 25 if so, when.  
1 26 e. Recommended educational adjustments for the child, if  
1 27 any, which may include preferential seating in the classroom,  
1 28 eyeglasses for full-time or part-time use in school, and  
1 29 additional recommendations.  
1 30 3. A child shall not be prohibited from attending  
1 31 kindergarten based upon the failure of a parent or guardian to  
1 32 furnish a report of the child's eye examination to the school.  
1 33 A parent or guardian who fails to furnish the required report  
1 34 shall be notified in writing of the eye examination  
1 35 requirements.  
2 1 4. The department, in coordination with the director of  
2 2 the department of education, shall adopt rules regarding the  
2 3 requirements of this section. The department shall submit a  
2 4 report to the general assembly by January 1, annually,  
2 5 regarding the results of the eye examinations. The first such  
2 6 report, to be submitted by January 1, 2009, shall include an  
2 7 assessment by the department of whether a source of financial  
2 8 assistance to assist parents and guardians would increase  
2 9 compliance with the required examinations.  
2 10 EXPLANATION  
2 11 This bill provides for certification by a parent or  
2 12 guardian of the performance of an eye examination before a  
2 13 child turns six years old.  
2 14 The bill provides that by January 1 after the start of the  
2 15 school year for a child enrolling in kindergarten, the child's  
2 16 parent or guardian shall present to school health personnel

2 17 program personnel certification that the child has undergone  
2 18 an eye examination by a licensed ophthalmologist or  
2 19 optometrist, and the results of the examination.  
2 20 The eye examination must consist of specified examination  
2 21 components. The bill requires that an ophthalmologist or  
2 22 optometrist provide a written certification and the results of  
2 23 the examination to a parent or guardian of the child.  
2 24 Included in the report, in addition to identifying  
2 25 information, shall be a summary of significant findings,  
2 26 including diagnoses, treatment plan, whether a return visit is  
2 27 recommended, and any recommended educational adjustments for  
2 28 the child.

2 29 The bill provides that a child shall not be prohibited from  
2 30 attending school because of the failure of a parent or  
2 31 guardian to furnish a report of a child's eye examination, and  
2 32 that a parent or guardian who fails to furnish the required  
2 33 report shall be notified in writing of the eye examination  
2 34 requirements.

2 35 The bill provides that the department, in coordination with  
3 1 the director of the department of education, shall adopt rules  
3 2 regarding the bill's provisions, and that the director of  
3 3 public health shall submit a report to the general assembly by  
3 4 January 1, annually, regarding the results of the eye  
3 5 examinations. The first such report, to be submitted by  
3 6 January 1, 2009, shall include an assessment by the department  
3 7 of whether a source of financial assistance for parents and  
3 8 guardians would increase compliance with the required eye  
3 9 examinations.

3 10 LSB 5776SV 82

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